GOVERNMENT BILLS

The Central Institute of English and Foreign Languages University Bill, 2006

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): Sir, on behalf of Shri Arjun Singh, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to establish and incorporate a teaching University for promotion and development of English and other Foreign Languages and their Literature, and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

THE APPROPRIATION (NO.3) BILL, 2006

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Sir, I beg to move:

> "That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2006-07, as passed by Lok Sabha be taken into consideration."

Sir, with your permission, may I say a few words on the Appropriation Bill and the expenditure planned for 2006-07? Sir, as you are aware, this Government has placed great emphasis on flagship programmes in the *Bharat Nirman*. We have addressed the revenue side and we think that in the next year, for the third year in succession, gross tax revenues will be increased by about 20 per cent. That is an unprecedented run of three years. I know, hon. Member, Dr.Malaisamy, asked me, "Can it be done year after year?", which I answered one day, "It can't be done unless you widen the tax base". But we are going to make another effort next year to keep the momentum up, that the gross tax revenues increase by 20 per cent. At the same time, we are adhering to the fiscal discipline and we will bring the fiscal deficit down to 3.8 per cent of the GDP. Between these two numbers, the gross tax revenue and the fiscal deficit, lie Plan expenditure and non-Plan expenditure. As hon. Members are aware, non-Plan expenditure is largely committed expenditure - interest, defence, salaries and pensions, and subsidies. It is only in Plan expenditure that we have room to prioritise our expenditure and give more money to sectors which deserve